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CLASSIFICATION - U.S. OFFICIALS OWLY -RDP82-00457R002600450004541A Sanitized - Approved REPORT NO.

CD NO.

COUNTRY

Siam

25X1A

CONFIDENTIAL

DATE DISTR.

SUBJECT

Political Activities Resultant on the 26 February

NO. OF PAGES 1

25 APR1949

Coup

PLACE

**ACQUIRED** 

DATE OF INF

NO. OF ENCLS.

SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

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- Admiral Taharn Khamiran, who is a close friend of Khuang Abhaiwong, invited l. the latter to sit out the operations with the Navy.
- 2. A former Member of Parliament stated that Khuang must bear the responsibility for the present situation in Siam. He asserted that Khuang was responsible for the double attack on Pridi Banomyong and Thamrong Nawasawat, that is, the starting of the King's death case and the corruption stories. These factors were used by Phibul as justification for the 7 November coup.
- 3. Phibul, an ardent astrologist, now bathes in the morning with lustral water and as part of the ceremony writes the names of his enemies on a piece of paper and then stamps them underfoot.
- Several active participants in the 26 February coup are still at large. even though their alibis seem rather flimsy. One of the most important of these is Kulap Kanachanasukun, a member of the 1932 coup, one time Senior Lieutenant of the Royal Navy, and one time member of the National Assembly and House of Elders. Kulap retired from politics following the November 1947 coup and thereafter engaged in the sugar and tobacco businesses. Several police officers who were engaged in the October coup refused to participate in the February coup when approached by Porn Malithong, who was also an active October coup participant.
- At a wedding on 5 or 6 March sponsored by Rear Admiral Luang Polasin Thawanat and Lieutenant General Phin Chunhawan, Group Captain M.C.R. Abhakorn, the Deputy Minister of Defense, got into a political discussion with a small group. After Polasin assured him that it was safe to talk, Rang indicated that Siam would never be secure until Pridi and his chief followers were eliminated.

This document is hereby regraded to CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with the letter of 16 October 1978 from the Director of Central Intelligence to the Archivist of the United States.

Next Review Date: 2008

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